(b) to (d) Information to the extent available will be collected and laid on the Table of the Rajya Sabha.

**Saving Gas from Flaring up**

41. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 642 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 2nd March, 1987 and state:

(a) whether Government propose to save the gas from being flared by channelising it for domestic use or any other commercial use in the country;

(b) what is the quantity of gas at present demanded being made available for domestic supply in Gujarat;

(c) whether it is possible to meet domestic demand immediately and if not by when the supply can be made available;

(d) what is the cost of production of gas and what is its equation with the sale price of gas;

(e) what is the price of gas, recommended by Gujarat Government taking into consideration in the price of alternative fuels; and

(f) whether the same has been agreed to and if not, what is the rationale thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) About 80,000 cubic metres of gas per day is being supplied to Baroda Municipal Corporation for domestic consumption. Commitment of gas has been made for domestic supply in Ankleshwar and Baroach cities. Proposal for gas supply to Surat city under consideration.

(c) Demands for domestic purposes have been met wherever they are found feasible.

(d) The cost of production of gas during 1985-86 was estimated at Rs. 1039.95 per thousand cubic metre, including royalty and sales tax. The pricing formula annonced by the Government, which came into force from 30-1-87, provides for reasonable returns for gas exploration, marketing and transportation and to encourage its further development and use.

(e) and (f) The Government of Gujarat have requested a price of Rs. 600 to 700/1000 SM3 of gas for domestic use in Ankleshwar and Baroach. As this is lower then the price fixed by Government, this has not been agreed to.

**Allotment of Diesel, Kerosene and Petrol to States**

42. DR. MOHD. HASHIM KIDWAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of diesel, kerosene oil and petrol allotted to the States during the years 1985-86 and 1986-87 year-wise; and

(b) the criteria for allotment thereof to each State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) and (b) Normally the requirements of kerosene of various States and Union Territories are assessed by allowing a 5 per cent growth over the allocations made in the corresponding period of the previous year, on a four-month-block basis, and allocations are made accordingly. Besides the regular allo-

cations, additional ad-hoc releases are also made to meet specific situations like flood, drought, cyclone, shortage of LPG|soft coke, etc. However, to meet increased demand, allocations of kerosene since November, 1985 i.e' beginning of Winter Block, have been made after allowing a growth of 7-1/2 per cent for Winter Blocks and 7 per cent both for Summer and Monsoon Blocks.

No allocations of petrol and diesel are made to State|UTs. These products are available on free sale basis and the oil companies have standing instructions to meet their demand in full, as far as possible. The details of allocation of kerosene to and sale of diesel (HSD) and petrol in the States and Union Territories during the years 1985-86 and 1986-87 are given below:—

*(Figures in tonnes)*

| Year | Kerosene (allocation) | Diesel (Sale) | Petrol (Sale) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1985-86 | 6172068 | 14896000 | 2275000 |
| 1986-87 | 6608780 | *16100000 | *2490000 |

*Estimated.

**Import of Power Plans**

43. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government propose to import huge power equipment financed through bilateral assistance during the coming years though the indigenous power equipment industry in the country both in the public and private sectors is already facing recession with the steady imports of power equipment;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) what is the cost involved in the import of power equipment; and

(d) by what percentage the gap between the demand and supply of power is likely to be met as aresult thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER IN THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY (SHRIMATI SUSHILA ROHATGI): (a) and (b) While primary reliance continues to be placed on indigenous sources for procurement of power equipment in view of the overall resource constraint, external assistance for some power projects is restored to.

(c) and (d) Since bilateral assistance is decided on a case to case basis keeping in mind the economic interests of the country, it is not possible to quantify the cost involved in bilateral assistance, yet to be decided, and the consequential reduction of gap between supply and demand.

**Royalty on coal**

44. SHRI CHITTA BASU: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted a Study Group to go into the question of revision of the royalty on coal in 1984;

(b) if so, whehter the Study Group has since submitted its Report;

(c) if so, what are the salient features thereof;

(d) what was the production of coal and amount of royalty paid from